# YOUR PHILANTHROPY MATTERS AT UC DAVIS!

For years, UC Davis has been at the forefront of making transformative strides in agriculture, sustainability, plant biology and science, and climate research to benefit local, regional, and global communities. We have faculty and researchers championing "Big Ideas" on how to feed the world sustainably with responsible resource use while innovating crops and plants that are more resilient, and uniting with government and community partners to inform climate policy and find solutions to the climate challenges we are currently facing.

Philanthropy has enabled UC Davis to not only grow and thrive, but it has propelled us in leading the charge in doing pivotal research and work for the greater good. **DONOR NAME REDACTED**, with your continued and meaningful partnership UC Davis will be able to make the impossible more possible, and continue to be a home for innovation, and advancing a healthier planet for generations to come.

### Here is a snapshot of the ways UC Davis is a national and global leader:



**1st** in the world in plant sciences



**1st** in the world in agricultural economics and policy (Center for World University Rankings)



**1st** in the U.S. for most sustainable university, and **3rd** globally for the past three years (2019 GreenMetricWorld University Ranking)



1st in the nation, 2nd in the world for agriculture (QS World University Rankings; U.S. News & World Report)

Thank you for all you do for UC Davis!



UC Davis is committed to creating a better world for all, and empowering the next generation of problem-solvers. Our programs are designed to equip our students, researchers, and faculty to be the changemakers the world needs to address the most pressing environmental issues of our time. Your gifts have been essential to these missions.

We've created this "giving tree" rooted in the foundation of your three endowments, and illustrating your remarkable impact to date.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR IMPACT

#### **1.** Learning by Leading<sup>™</sup> program

Your generosity has provided a foundation to build and expand our major programs and initiatives, such as our Learning by Leading™ program. This program develops over 130 students into environmental leaders of the future who will serve to combat climate change. The Learning by Leading™ program model is also being shared with institutions across North America with plans to expand internationally. Not only will this program make a great impact locally, the effect will be felt worldwide as we strive to create a better tomorrow.

#### 2. California Native Plant plantings

Your contributions to the Mary Wattis Brown Memorial Fund support collections and educational programs on California native plants, which are an important resource for scientists, gardeners, teachers, students, campus and regional communities.

In 2018-2019, the endowment funds were saved for an anticipated major upgrade to the primary path through the Mary Wattis Brown Garden of California Native Plants. This upgrade will replace the cracked, worn-out asphalt and create an attractive and improved pathway that is more easily accessible for students and researchers who utilize the garden, as well as visitors who use wheelchairs, making it a more inclusive place to learn and enjoy nature.

#### 3. Living Landscape Adaptation Plan

The importance of California native plants will be a focus of our Living Landscape Adaptation Plan, which transitions the entire campus to be more resilient as the climate changes. This plan will allow UC Davis to bring environmental lessons not just to campus, but also to regional and global communities. This immersive internship develops effective student-leaders to take meaningful action and make impactful choices in creating and maintaining sustainable landscapes, and serve as lifelong ambassadors inspiring ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary change for a more sustainable world.



#### 4. Ongoing Student Research

Jack Major was beloved by his students at UC Davis for his curiosity, modesty, and kindness. Your meaningful support in memory of Jack and his contributions is valued and serves great purpose. With funds provided by the Jack C. Major Memorial Award, 19 UC Davis students have been awarded grants in support of their research in biology, whether in plant ecology, plant systematics, or plant geography. The research done by these awardees is pivotal to understanding plant biology, including their ability to survive and flourish in various regions and climates.

This endowment has flourished and because of your generosity, UC Davis has been able to increase its annual support for the past two years, providing not one, but two exceptional students with funds for their research.

#### 5. Ruth R. Storer Arboretum Garden Fund

This fund is essential in providing the Arboretum and the Ruth R. Storer Garden with the resources to enable the "Valley-wise garden" of flowering perennials and small shrubs well-suited to the Central Valley climate to flourish. By utilizing Valley-wise gardening and planting plants indigenous to the Central Valley, we are providing a landscape that will continue to withstand the climate fluctuations of our region. This garden also hosts educational exhibits which highlight the principles of sustainable gardening to our students, staff, local and regional community.

#### 6. Oaks Forever

Building on research done here at UC Davis and beyond, the plan to transform a canopy of trees in the Arboretum proposes replacing highly vulnerable species on campus with trees that are better adapted to future conditions and provide the most environmental, social, and economic value in the future. With the help of philanthropic funding, we plan to conserve especially valuable trees on campus, such as our Arboretum redwood grove and heritage oaks, change management practices to help all UC Davis trees bounce back from coming climate shocks, and implement slow system-level changes in the tree canopy by planting trees that will suit the ever-changing climate.

#### 7. Arboretum Waterway Maintenance & Enhancement Project

The waterway is an important component to how our campus manages its storm-water. This current and ongoing project, supported in part by your philanthropy, will help us improve water quality and reduce a 20-year buildup of excess sediment in the waterway in order to maintain its storage capacity as part of the campus flood control system. We will be redesigning the waterway to function better from a storm-water collection standpoint, as well as from an ecological and aesthetic standpoint. The project will also address resculpting the banks for planting native wetland plants, and create an emergent marsh, open water, and riparian forest habitat area which will increase the wildlife habitat dramatically.



